

Interrogation of witness on Friday, April 19, 1963,
at 9:30 a.m., at Room 1008 Dupont Plaza Hotel, Miami, Florida,
by Assistant State Attorney Seymour Gelber and City of Miami
Police Department Detective Lochart F. Gracey, Jr.

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EXAMINATION

Q On April 4, 5, and 6, 1963, you attended a meeting
of The Congress of Freedom in New Orleans; is that correct?

A That's right.

Q With whom did you travel to the meeting of the
Congress?

A Well, I traveled with John Thurman and a boy named
Williams, Tommie Williams.

Q Did you go by car?

A Yes, Tommie Williams' car, Cadillac, 1956 Cadillac
sedan.

Q Are these two people members of the Council
for Statehood?

A Yes.

Q How long did the trip take?

A Well, we left Palm Beach at five o'clock and we were


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in New Orleans the next day, around one. We made it in eighteen hours and a half.

Q During the trip, did you have any discussions as to the future of the Council for Statehood?

A Well, I mean generally, you know what we went for; naturally, they were going there for the Congress and they were, of course, affiliated with this Congress of Freedom, and the discussions going on there was, of course, casually in connection with the two organizations and about the future of them and anything like that.

I didn't know that this fellow Thurman was a member of The Congress of Freedom until I arrived in New Orleans. That's when he made it known to me that he was a member. After we got there, he went into conference with Thomas, whose name is on there. I think he is the executive director.

Q George J. Thomas?

A That's right. He went in conference with him all evening, which I didn't know what their conversation was.

Q On the trip to New Orleans, did any discussion come up as to any future action of the Council in Florida?

A Well, of course, that had been discussed at all meetings. The future of the Council in Florida is to organize as hard as they can in all counties and all communities, which they are setting up in Dade County now, and also Broward County.

They are trying to spread very hard now. I mean they have got a couple of meeting places. One is 1262 Northeast 155th-- wait a minute--145th Street, which belongs to a woman by the name of Pendrey. That is in North Miami.

Q What is that supposed to be?

A She has a big home there. That is going to be a place in the future they are going to have meetings. Instead of having to travel all the way up there, they will have meetings down here. Cunningham is going to be the coordinator for this section.

Q What is Cunningham's full name? Is that a male or female?

A She is a lady. I don't know her first name. Mrs. Cunningham is all I have ever been able to get out of her. I think somewhere in the records we have got more about her.

Q Have these people ever attended any of the meetings of the Council for Statehood--the women you have just mentioned?

A Oh, yes; they have attended in Boynton Beach.

Q What are they supposed to organize in Dade County?

A They are supposed to organize people into the Council for Statehood. Those people will be affiliated with The Congress of Freedom but won't directly belong unless they pay \$10 to join it, but the Council for Statehood is affiliated with that organization.

Q Does the Council for Statehood have some dues structure?

A Oh, yes; they have some contributions coming in. It is deposited in the Security Exchange Bank in Palm Beach.

Q In whose name?

A John Thurman.

Q Did any conversation arise on your trip in regard to any violence that might occur in Florida or in Dade County?

A Well, nothing was specifically stated that they would. Of course, when the time comes, that's understood, that there will be violence all over, when the time comes and when they call it, but, of course, this boy, Tommie Williams, and Thurman, I mean they have it in their minds that there will be violence for certain people if the orders come down from Stuart, and there is no question in my mind that they won't do it. They both have guns, that is, carbines.

Q Are these the boys you think are the ones most inclined to violence in the Council?

A No, they are not the only ones. Mary Davison is the head of the Council and she will issue the orders, if anything is done. There is no question in my mind about that, like this vicinity through here; but from the top of this Council, The Congress of Freedom is made up of several different organizations and, of course, their purpose is to overthrow

the United Nations. If they see and have reasons to believe-- the top people--that the United States is going to be turned over to the United Nations that means more. They have a bunch of people selected which they claim is the ones who is in and directing the communist conspiracy to throw the United States Government into the United Nations.

Q Let me ask you one question, to get something clear in my mind. When you say "to overthrow the United Nations," is that exactly what you mean or is it to remove the United States from the influence of the United Nations?

A To strictly overthrow the influence from even the higher officials of the United States Government who is participating or would be responsible for throwing the United States into the United Nations.

Q In other words, to make this real short, you mean they want to get us out of the United Nations?

A That is exactly it, and they will fight to see to it. If the government should go under the direction of the UN, they are ready to fight.

Q Getting back to the local area for a moment, do you recall that some time back there were discussions in regard to Paul Epstein of Fort Lauderdale?

A Yes. That was discussed some time back in our meetings, that of course he is one of the marked men in this

vicinity because he is supposed to be, I believe, the head of the ADL, or something in Fort Lauderdale, but he is one of the marked men. I told you that a pretty good while ago.

Q Has any further discussion been had in regard to Epstein, for example?

A No. His name hasn't been mentioned right recently. They don't talk about that in the meetings.

Q When his name did come up, who was the person who brought up his name?

A I believe it was Mary Davison and this lawyer.

Q Arthur Bohn?

A Bohn. Of course, he is very much on the list.

Q In regard to Epstein, have you ever talked to Hobart Andrews about Epstein?

A No; I have been there two or three different times to talk to him, but it has been so crowded, too busy to talk to him. I have that on my agenda, to have a good conversation with him.

Q During the automobile trip to New Orleans, do you recall any specific instructions that related to the Florida operation of the Council?

A There was general discussion, all right, about the Council and its operations and what they were going to do, and of course there was a little discussion about eliminating

the Jews that was heading these organizations, like the ADL, the top men. What they figure on is the top men.

Q Did they name any particular persons?

A No. The only thing that they named was the ones that's on the Council of Foreign Relations.

Q I am still talking about locally, in Dade County and in Florida. Did they name any particular persons? They made reference to the ADL?

A Yes, ADL is one of them, sure, of course.

Q Did they name any other persons or groups locally they wanted to eliminate?

A No; they didn't name any specific person.

Q Did they indicate when they would be in a position, or when they would be in a better position, to take violent action?

A Well, they figure on organizing and getting as much strength as they can. They will wait for orders. Nobody in that organization is going to do anything until it comes from the top, unless Mary in this vicinity would have somebody do something like that, but the way I understood it thoroughly, from talking to different people in New Orleans, when the time comes it will be an all out fight all over the United States. Things will happen in every city, when they get ready to go.

Q When you refer to Mary Davison, are you referring

to the national group?

A The national group, but I am satisfied Mary Davison is one of them in it and, since I made the trip to Tallahassee, I am satisfied John Thurman is, too.

Q If they wanted to eliminate Epstein, this would be a purely local matter, not connected with the United Nations?

A I assume it would.

Q So they would not need advice from any national organization?

A I think Mary Davison, from this district or anywhere in the United States, could name a man in Dade County she wanted killed and I am satisfied that gunmen would be brought in here to do that killing. That is exactly the impression I have got of her. She is a person of very few words on that, but it is known that she intends to be one of the leaders of the war, if it ever starts, so I assume if she taken the notion to have somebody killed that she would just issue the order to do it and that would be all there is to it.

Q The Congress has been in operation for twelve years-- I think this was its twelfth annual session--and Mary Davison has been in operation for probably at least that time. Do you know of anyone who has ever been eliminated by that group or as a result of Mary Davison's orders?

A No, I don't. You see, I think this thing is building

bigger now, of course, than it ever did before, and they are coming on harder now and taking more steps and bringing more people in, and they are getting braver with advocating violence than ever before. That's the impression I get from people who I talked to over there, like this fellow Theodore Jackman and Milteer. Milteer is the leader for the Dixie Klan of Tennessee. He is the one who represents them in the State of Georgia. He definitely is as violent minded a man as I ever talked to.

Q Where does the Council get its money?

A Which Council is that?

Q The Florida Council for Statehood.

A They get it from contributions and donations, membership. They are supposed to have--I have never seen it but I know they have got it--a secret fund, which is not in the bank. They have a fund in the bank and have one that is not in the bank.

Q Have you any idea who makes these contributions to the Council?

A There's about thirty-six states. I gave you a list of the names who they sent over the states. Well, those people are contributing to the Council for Statehood. And they have got some big people, individuals like in Texas and different places. One is a doctor. I think I gave you his

name, didn't I--Burgess, or something like that, and of course they have got a fellow named Roberts, who is the master-mind in the contributions, and he is setting up, of course, the military operation. He is a major who was put out of the Army.

Q Is he in the service now?

A No, he is out. He was released after he made a speech for General Walker, but he is a big man in this and he is pushing it very hard.

Q Who are the local people who are helping financially, if you know?

A At our meetings over there last Saturday, I know a woman by the name of Lucas, which you have got her name, she donated \$100 that day.

Q Lucas?

A Yes. Her name is Lucas. I think she is from Fort Lauderdale. Of course, the Jacksons, they donate pretty good. They have got several people that donate money to it that I don't know. Mary Davison and this Thurman don't let everybody know everything.

Q Are there any people from Dade County who contribute, as far as you know?

A The only one I have seen give money from Dade County is Mrs. Pendrey, the woman from North Miami Beach, and I believe

there's a couple more.

Q How about Keathley?

A I don't know. Keathley denies that he does, but I think he does.

Q Does he know of the existence of the organization?

A Oh, yes; he knows Mary Davison a long time. He sold her books a long time.

Q Has he ever been invited to attend a meeting?

A No. Mary Davison told me she didn't want him to come, he was too controversial, too anti-Semitic. She doesn't want the organization to get the name of being anti-Semitic. She was afraid if Keathley would come to a meeting, he might be tailed in there and cause trouble.

Q How many people attend the Council meetings?

A Maybe fifteen, twelve, something like that.

Q Is it the same group?

A Yes. Well, you see, these people that attend there are more or less the ones that is coordinating this all over the country. They don't bring in all the members and discuss this in front of them.

Q You mean coordinating all over Florida?

A Oh, no. Some are coordinating in different states and in Florida. They got coordinated in every state and they have got two or three women here that's got four or five states

themselves, also, they take care of.

This woman come to me yesterday, Mrs. Cunningham, for a hundred of these books to send to her people. What I have been trying to do is to get them to give me their list so I can make up envelopes for them, but I ain't been successful in getting my hands on them coordinators like her and the rest of them.

Q What are the ages of the people who attend these meetings?

A They run anywhere from about twenty-five to sixty, sixty-five.

Q What kinds of occupations do they have?

A They have got occupations--some are retired, some are business people, some of them are--well, just, I would say ordinary business people, not very many working people, that is, laborers, and things like that. I don't know one that is involved at this time. They are all supposed to be business people.

Q They seem to have a large number of women. Are there more women than men?

A Yes, more women than men, that I have seen. In New Orleans, the biggest majority of the people there were women. Of course, I was very much surprised. There were about at least fifty percent or sixty percent of them Catholics.

I was very much surprised to see that, you know, and I went on and discussed with quite a few of them and heard them talk. They are all well-to-do people. They are not just ordinary people you see in the street.

Q You say more than half of the people there were Catholics?

A That's right.

Q This was in New Orleans?

A That's right.

Q How about down here?

A There's only--I didn't question it, but the only Catholic that I know definitely is a Catholic is Bohn, the lawyer.

Q What significance does that have to you?

A It has a whole lot because I always thought that the Catholics were strictly against this kind of people, anti-Jewish and anti-Negro and all this. I always had the impression that the Catholics was one of the big leaders on anti-discrimination. That's the learning I have had, but I sure found out different when I was in New Orleans. I lived in New Orleans a long time, too. This was very much a surprise to me. I think the time is coming when I am going under cover, when one of the main underground leaders in the movement, and he is putting out some very bad stuff, will be a Catholic

priest. I am not going to tell you this is definite until I come to that stage. When I do, I will make it my business to prove it to you beyond the shadow of a doubt so I won't be in the middle. There's some Jews in it, too; there's gentiles; there's Negroes and everything else. I understand somewhere in the west they have Negroes belonging.

Q You do not have any Jews or Negroes in Florida in the Council for Statehood, do you?

A No. I am talking about these other states. No, you don't have any here at all. I haven't seen one yet.

Q Is there any other specific thing that you recall, conversation-wise, on your trip to New Orleans that would be of interest or help to us?

A No; I don't recall anything.

Q Were you fellows drinking much on the trip?

A No; nobody drank a drop.

Q When you got to New Orleans, what did you do? Did you check into the Hotel Fontainebleau?

A When we got to New Orleans, we went to the Fontainebleau Hotel and of course the Fontainebleau Hotel was filled up with the ones coming in that made reservations.

Q Who made the reservations--George Soule?

A No, John Thurman.

Q You mean your reservations?

A No. He made his own and the other people coming in. I went to the Plaza Motel, me and Tommie Williams, and stayed there.

Q Why did you not stay at the Fontainebleau?

A They didn't have more room.

Q Were other people who were attending the convention staying at the Plaza?

A Not that I know of. Some of them tried to get in there. I think eleven had planned to go in there but at the last minute the Fontainebleau made room for them on account of some checkouts or something. I don't know exactly how it happened, but I was already in.

Q What day did you get there? The convention began on a Wednesday.

A We left here I think it was Tuesday. We got there Wednesday. I am pretty sure it was Wednesday or Thursday-- yes, we got there Wednesday.

Q The actual business of the convention did not begin until Thursday?

A That's right.

Q You were there at the beginning, were you not?

A Oh, yes; sure.

Q Was the convention set up with public speeches and then would committees meet and discuss problems?

A Yes. They had a program of speakers. Then they had committees, which I didn't attend because I wasn't allowed to attend.

Q Were these committees selected at the convention or prior?

A They were not selected at the convention in the open. It might have been done secretly. See, they had a meeting every night. The committee meetings met every night in some room. Which one it was, I don't know.

Q Did the committees ever report back to the general convention?

A No, they didn't.

Q On Thursday, George Soule gave the opening address. Do you know George Soule?

A Yes. He is from New Orleans.

Q He runs a school there, does he not?

A Yes, but I didn't know him till I met him over there. I heard of him in Miami as setting up a private school here in the integration fight. Him and Leander H. Pererez of the Citizens Council and all set that up.

Q Were you rooming with somebody there or did you have your own room?

A Tommie Williams and myself had the same room together.

Q Did you and Williams have any discussion as to the

operation of the Florida Council?

A No. We never discussed it. I mean as far as-- except for Mary--I talked to him and, of course, he is one hundred percent for Mary and I went along with him. His main purpose is to do anything Mary says.

Q What does the boy do?

A He has been working for Rincon Concrete Company. He lost that job and he is now in St. George, South Carolina. I got a telegram from him.

Q Is he coming back?

A Yes. He said in the telegram he would be back.

Q What is the name of the other fellow who was with you?

A John Thurman.

Q What does Thurman do for a living?

A I don't think he does anything.

Q How old a man is he?

A I would say he is around thirty.

Q And Williams?

A Williams is probably twenty-six.

Q Have those fellows ever been arrested; do you know?

A I am not sure. I don't know about that.

Q Do they belong to the local American Nazi party?

A Not that I know of, no. They claim to be very much

against it.

Q Did you attend the speeches they had at the convention?

A Yes.

Q For example, did you hear Arthur Blaisie, chairman of The Congress of Freedom in his keynote address?

A Yes, I heard him.

Q Generally, what was he talking about?

A His address was directed at the United Nations and to the Council of Foreign Relations and to the Federal Reserve Bank and to the communist conspiracy, which he claimed to be made up of the Council of Foreign Relations and is supposed to be an underground communist conspiracy to overthrow the United States Government and put it into the UN under a world government.

Q Have you ever attended a Congress of Freedom meeting before?

A Never.

Q Do you know what the makeup of this organization is?

A What do you mean by the makeup?

Q Is it constituted of a group of other organizations?

A Yes.

Q A federation of organizations?

A That's right. They are consolidated with many

organizations. Any patriot organization selected is with them. The Citizens Council is recognized with them; the Klu Klux Klan, through duly authorized representatives like Milteer--he is a representative of the Dixie Klan and they have a fellow Kearns, I believe his name is Kearns, who represents the law enforcement association, whatever it is, organized by William Grubb in Kentucky, in Louisville.

Q All these organizations are part of The Congress of Freedom?

A That's right.

Q Do they pay dues to The Congress of Freedom or do they just meet once a year at their convention?

A This I don't know. I know I had to pay dues to join.

Q To join The Congress of Freedom?

A That's right; \$10.

Q In other words, you can be a member of The Council for Statehood and a member of that, too?

A Yes. Every organization affiliated with them have their own members and contributions of funds and places. For instance, if I go or you, you have to join up and pay your \$10 to be a member. Now, the people at the top, I don't know how they work that.

Q Do they have elections at these conventions?

A No. I think they just appoint each other. I don't think there's any elections. I didn't hear anything about an election. I think this fellow Thomas is the man that organized it.

Q George J. Thomas, the executive director?

A Yes. I think he is the man who founded it. He has got a board there and then they relieve this one, put another one on and change it around. That's the way I understand it, but there's no election except by the board, no membership election.

Q On Thursday, there was an address by Arthur J. Bohn of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, who was introduced by Mary M. Davison. Did you hear that?

A Yes.

Q What was the subject?

A His subject was strictly how to get the Bohn plan, which he initiated in 1961, petitioned to go to the Supreme Court of the United States to outlaw the UN, on the ground that it is a treaty. In other words, it was put in some way in a treaty that he claims he can throw it out. Of course, they are now, as I understand it, getting a petition drawn to the United States Supreme Court. The holdup is they have got to have the governor of a state to sponsor this and they haven't been able to get one so far.

Q The speeches that were made generally at the convention were not of a violent nature, were they?

A Some of them was, yes.

Q Give me an example.

A Now, every speaker that spoke didn't advocate violence, but now, Theodore Jackman, he definitely--he ain't on that program. They flew him in from California. He is from Greenville, South Carolina. He is an engineer of some type. He had there a display of stuff, material that he had got from the War Department, such as pictures and diagrams and maps, and that he undercovered in the State of Georgia that the United States Government was setting up what they called a water moccasin guerilla warfare. He claimed this was the communist organization being set up by the Kennedy administration and the communists to go in and spy on everybody and know exactly where they were.

Q Would you explain that a little more clearly. You say water moccasins?

A Yes, something the Army has in training. They call it water moccasin guerilla warfare, which the Army trains men to go out and fight in the jungles. That's called water moccasins.

Q What are they supposed to do that is communistic?

A He claims this is a communist conspiracy. They are

spying on the people and setting out the land to know how to conduct a revolution and different places to hit. He claims him and several more people, by exposing this, created a situation where the government canceled it. He produced the newspapers to show it from the Pentagon, that this water moccasin guerilla training in Georgia had been canceled.

Q What maps did he show?

A He showed maps of Georgia, the best I could see, where they were supposed to come in, and different things like that, where they were supposed to train.

Q You say there was some talk of violence. Where was the violence?

A Well, Jackman strictly said right from the stand that this was a communist guerilla warfare that had been placed on the people by the United States Army and he said, "We will meet the United States Army head-on, and we will destroy every one of them," in these words. That's the words he said. It is taped. I am trying to get the tape now. Every bit of the convention is taped.

Q Who taped it?

A Milteer from Georgia.

Q He taped it for the use of the people participating; he did not do it secretly?

A No. Every speech was taped. I mean there were

no punches pulled as to advocating violence, if the time come that they tried to put the United States Government under the UN that they wouldn't fight, because they said there that the UN was being placed under a communist general, or whatever it is.

Q What other talk of violence was there at these public speeches?

A This fellow, Stahl I believe is the name---

Q Steve Stahl, Oklahoma City?

A Yes. He didn't directly advocate killing anybody, but advocated we would fight, just like the rest of them on the UN deal. Some was sterner and more to the point of violence than others.

Q On Friday, April 5, Mary Davison made a speech on "The Secret Government Of The United States." Just what was the content of her speech?

A Well, the content of her speech was that the United Nations was a secret government of the United States, which was a communist conspiracy to overthrow the United States Government, and it was headed by men which was listed in a book which she had written, "The Secret Government Of The United States," and she listed all of these members of the Council of Foreign Relations. She marked a bunch of people. At least, Tommie Williams told me she marked them.

They would be the first ones to go. I gave you that book, Captain Gracey. Now, she marked them and Tommie give them to me.

Q These statements were not made in public? These are statements you got from Williams?

A Tommie Williams give it to me.

Q You got it from Williams?

A Yes, and Mary give it to him. That had been marked the night before, he give it to me the next day. He give me the book and said, "Here's the ones Mary has marked that are supposed to be the ones that will be the first ones to go in case we have to go to war."

Q I noticed the name Ray Eubank.

A That's in Jacksonville.

Q Director, Jacksonville, Florida.

A Yes.

Q What is his involvement?

A Frankly, I think Eubank is one of the men on top in the State of Florida. I didn't get no commitment out of him to that effect, but I know him before. I know he has been a member of the Klu Klux Klan and different other organizations in Jacksonville, for a long time. Of course, he is connected with these people. In other words, he is connected with them in some high position.

Q How about Mary D. Cain, from Summit, Mississippi? She has been active for a long time, has she not?

A She sure has. She made a pretty hard speech, too, about the United States Government, to tell how they tried to take her newspaper over and she knocked the lock off and went on in. She advocates we must overthrow the income tax and the United Nations. The UN is the main thing they claim they are fighting to go into it, the United States Government being turned over to them.

Q As far as the open sessions were concerned, were there any public speeches on anti-Semitism?

A No.

Q Did they have any on the anti-Negro situation?

A No. They didn't use anything except anti-communist.

Q Not anti-Catholic?

A No, they didn't say anything like that. They talked about the President. He is a Catholic. They are strictly anti him and his whole administration, if you want to take it that's anti-Catholic.

Q Do you know who Dr. Oliver, of Urbana, Illinois, is? He is apparently a teacher at the university.

A He made a long speech and of course he was one of the main ones that was advocating, of course, violence if

we had to protect the United States Government against going into the UN, and of course this Council of Foreign Relations. He went on to tell what their business was and what their purpose was.

Q Would you tell me again the names of some of the participating organizations at The Congress of Freedom.

A Well, the Citizens Council of New Orleans are affiliated with it. Mr. Terry was there representing them. Milteer from Quitman, Georgia, was representing Jack Brown and Harry Brown--I know these two fellows very well--of the Dixie Klan of Tennessee, but he is a representative in the State of Georgia.

Q When you say the Dixie Klan, what do you mean?

A The Dixie Knights of the Klu Klux Klan, which is incorporated in the State of Tennessee, with headquarters in Chattanooga.

Q Are they a group of Klu Klux Klans in that particular state?

A Yes, they are chartered.

Q That is an organization in itself?

A Yes, that's right, and it is chartered.

Q What other organizations were involved?

A The law enforcement outfit that is headed by William Grubb, out of Kentucky. He had some kind of

organization which he calls law enforcement, to recognize anybody that is violating the law.

Q Citizens arrest?

A Yes, citizens arrest. I don't know exactly all about it. I have heard of it but I've never been interested in it. In fact, I have even heard him speak, some years ago, in Louisville, but I never took no stock in his organization. I figured being open like it was and advocating like he did, everybody knew what he was doing anyway.

Q What other organizations, that you can recall?

A Naturally, the Council for Statehood was there.

Q Did they have any California organizations there?

A They had people from California. So far as actually the organization, I will say that seventy-five to ninety percent of the people in the whole thing there are the top and the people were a member of the John Birch Society and they didn't hesitate to tell you that.

Q They did not represent the John Birch Society?

A They didn't say that.

Q They happened to be members of the John Birch Society?

A They may have had a representative there which I didn't talk to him to commit himself.

Q How did you know they were members of the John Birch

Society?

A They discussed that. Several people would tell you they were and they didn't make any secret about it and they even praised the John Birch Society from the speaker's stand. Several did.

Q Can you remember any other organizations that had representatives? How about the White Citizens Council?

A Yes, White Citizens Council. A fellow from Gulfport, Mississippi, represented them. His name was Rand, or something like that. He made a speech. He was from Gulfport. That's the Citizens Council, the way I understood it from him, not only from him, there were three or four people with him, but he was the representative from Gulfport, Mississippi.

Q Were there any people or groups there from Texas?

A Yes, there was a representative who I found out definitely, when I was in Tallahassee, that he is one of the supreme commanders. That is a doctor, a dentist in Houston.

Q What is his name?

A Burgess, I believe.

Q Did he make a speech?

A No, he did not.

Q Is that Edward B. Burgess?

A Yes, of Houston. I think that was his name.

Q How many people attended this convention?

A Well, I put on there practically seven hundred, but I would say at the most--now, you had people today and tomorrow you would have a different group, because the place wasn't big enough to seat over 250 people--I would say about four to five hundred. I put seven hundred in there to boost it a little bit. I did that to boost Mary a little bit, but I don't think there were that many.

Q Were they from most parts of the United States, or primarily from New Orleans?

A No, from all over the United States.

Q Did you recognize many of the people there whom you had met through your travels?

A I know Milteer. I had met him. No, Milteer was about the only one that I remembered him, and Eubank, except Terry, of course. I was a member of the Citizens Council over there in New Orleans, in the Butler Building, and I remember seeing him there.

Q Did you meet any people there who were active in the Klu Klux Klan with you?

A No, nobody but Eubank. He's the only one that I knew was connected. Milteer, of course I knew he was, but the first time he actually told me he was representing Harry and Jack Brown was over at the meeting, him and his wife.

Q Were Harry and Jack Brown there?

A No, neither one of them.

Q Were the public sessions open to the public?

A Yes.

Q Any citizen could walk in off the street?

A No. You had to join to get in.

Q Was there any concern there that the FBI or some other police agency might have been covering the meeting?

A There could have been. There was nothing to stop them.

Q Did any of the people there discuss that among themselves?

A It was stated that the FBI might be there or the ADL, and different things, but they didn't care. They didn't give a damn who heard what they had to say.

Q They were not concerned that their rooms might be tapped, or anything like that?

A Yes. With them kind of people, at every convention they are suspicious of the walls, as far as that is concerned. That is true. An incident happened. We went through the corridor and I was going down to John Thurman's room with five or six other people. Like this room and then the next door was open and the man in there was doing some recording and they seen him and it scared them, so John Thurman wouldn't

hold any more sessions in his room.

Q What do you mean by recording?

A He was a businessman and he had records and he was sitting there recording his business, you know.

Q Do you know how they picked the Fontainebleau Motel as the place?

A No. I never knew anything about it until Mary Davison told me. I never knew why they taken it.

Q Did anybody talk about who owned the Fontainebleau Motel?

A No.

Q The Dixie Klan, is the Tennessee group?

A Yes. It is incorporated.

Q How long have they been in operation?

A A long, long time, because I covered them as far back as six years, I know. I am pretty sure it is as much as six years.

Q Do they have a group similar to that in other states?

A Oh, yes. The Dixie Klan has groups, that is, units and klaverns. They call them klaverns. I don't know if it is in several states, but when I used to go to all these conventions, they had some in Georgia and South Carolina and in North Carolina I think they had some and maybe in Kentucky,

and they had them in Alabama, too.

Q Is the term Dixie Klan a generalization you are using or is it the head of an organization of klans?

A The Dixie Klan is an individual klan, incorporated and chartered by the Secretary of State of Tennessee and the Imperial Wizard of the klan is Jack Brown. Harry Brown is the other big man. They have got a couple more on the charter.

Q How do they differ from any other klan?

A They don't, as far as I know, except they spread and are more powerful and violent. The Dixie Klan is considered the most violent Klu Klux Klan in America because they have committed all kinds of bombings and killings in the State of Tennessee.

Q Has this been proven?

A They know it definitely.

Q Knowledge without proof?

A It's a hard proposition. I went to work and got them the best evidence on them, how they put their explosives over. They had a device they could drop in the gasoline tank. When it would burn to a certain degree, it would explode. It would blow the coil. This was being planted on colored people's houses with dynamite. They had several explosions and several killings there, which they knew something was happening but they couldn't know how they were blowing it.

I went there and stayed there a week and got a specimen of the whole thing, how they set it up and everything.

Q When was this?

A This must have been in 1961, I believe, but of course that has been eliminated because they got onto it and busted it all to pieces. That was during the time that they had the bus trouble in Alabama. I was there then, in Chattanooga.

Q You mean the Freedom Riders?

A That's right. I was there when they all went over. The Grand Dragon for the Dixie Klan was Kenneth Adams. I was in the house when they made the emergency call for the people to go to Birmingham and Anderson, Alabama. I went back to Chattanooga.

Q Going back to the Congress meeting in New Orleans, were there any meetings of which you were a part, that took place outside of the regular sessions?

A Well, no. I didn't have any particular meetings, just talking and discussing with people in different places. I didn't go to any of the meetings myself.

Q They did have committee meetings?

A They had them, sure, but I wasn't allowed in.

Q Why not?

A You just don't walk in with them kind of people

that's there and get in with them. You are going to have to use some shooting to get into a position with those. I think I am going to be able to get to the top and get some good information through the doctor in Houston. He is the man I believe who is going to let me in.

Q Dr. Burgess?

A Yes.

Q You said you had general discussions. What kinds of discussions did you have, and with whom?

A When you have got two or three hundred people and they are all talking about the United Nations and councils, this and that and the other, you have to agree with them. They done most of the talking. I listened. I had to agree. A lot of it was talking violence against the Jews, and things like that. I tried to remain without getting into conversation to sanction this, as much as I could, just to listen to them, but the women was the ones discussing this more than anybody else in this group.

Q Did they have young women or elderly ones at the meeting?

A Oh, yes; at this meeting they had a lot of damned goodlooking women.

Q Were the other people from Florida participating in these discussions?

A Well, now, Mary Davison and this Thurman and Bohn was, I am satisfied, because they are in a high enough position to be on these committees. They were on the committees.

Q How about the discussions with you, just talking about things in general, like the United Nations?

A Of course, I talked with Mary and Thurman and this doctor's wife. Her name is Dolores. I don't know if I put that down. She was there. Her husband is a Cuban doctor in the north part of Miami or the Beach.

Q Was he there?

A No, he wasn't there, but she was, Dolores was there.

Q Who else was there from the Council for Statehood, other than those whose names you have mentioned?

A Well, let's see. There was Mary, Tommie, John Thurman, Walter Jackson and his wife, Mrs. Cunningham and her sister.

Q What is her sister's name?

A I think it's Hoby, or something like that. I have got it some place.

Q Is that Mrs. Robert C. Habig?

A That's right.

Q And you believe she is taking the place of Cardin as coordinator for Dade County?

A I don't know about Cardin. I don't think Cardin

belongs to this, no.

Q You told me that he does. There were two coordinators you named previously. You said that Cardin was one of them, and had never been in a meeting. This is from the beginning of your reports.

A What I got was he was supposed to be a member and working, but I didn't see him at a meeting and I didn't talk with him. The only thing Cardin came in was that he was connected with it and I don't know definitely if he was a coordinator or not, but he was working with Norton.

Q You have said Cardin and Norton.

A Norton did go. He went with me to the meeting.

Q You are talking about the Council for Statehood meeting?

A Yes. Norton went with me. You have got that.

Q Tell us who else went to the New Orleans conference, in addition to those whose names you gave us. Mrs. Habig's name was the last one you gave.

A Mrs. Cunningham was there, Dolores was there, John Lanier from Palm Beach was there, and of course I give you them others, John Thurman and Tommie Williams.

Q Anybody else from the Council for Statehood?

A No, I didn't see anybody else.

Q And Bohn was there?

A Yes, Bohn was there.

Q Are those the people who are the top leadership of the Council for Statehood?

A Here in this state, yes. The ones they've got in other states, I don't know.

Q Do they make up the so-called executive committee of the Council for Statehood?

A That's right.

Q Do they consider you as one of the in people there?

A They have just taken me in as one Saturday.

Q Did they distribute literature at the Congress meeting?

A Yes, that was "The Secret Government."

Q "The secret government of the United States, Jews in position of great power"?

A Yes. They had a big table in a room with all this stuff on there. You could go there and buy it or get it. This one you are looking at comes from Milteer, I believe, but it identifies itself, anyway.

Q This letter from the American Universal Church and Commercial League Corporation is apparently signed by Archbishop C. C. Adson.

A Yes.

Q Is he a Negro?

A That's right.

Q And he is against the NAACP and CORE?

A They were passing that literature out.

Q Is he a Muslim leader?

A I don't know what he is. All I know about him is they had a letter there for you to pick up.

Q Are you pretty friendly with Bohn?

A Yes, I am pretty good with him.

Q Did you have much conversation with him at New Orleans?

A Yes, I talked with him some. Since I got back something happened which I didn't know about until last Saturday. Now, during one of these meetings at the Fontainebleau, at night, committee meetings, well--in the afternoon the newspaper came out with a big headline, "Pope advocates peace on earth by putting--" in other words, setting a UN police force and let that be more or less the empire capital of the world--now, at this meeting, I understand that Bohn got a couple of drinks and after he read this he jumped up in the meeting and said, "I resign from all this because I can't give up my church." He was very violently mad at the pope.

Q Where was this?

A He said this at one of the meetings in the

Fontainebleau, on Friday night, and I didn't know this until Saturday, which they discussed this and informed me all about this on Saturday, but he sobered up, from the way I understand it, they got him into the big council and talked with him and he apologized and told them he was sorry that he made that speech and he did it because he was emotional and had a couple of drinks, but that he pledged to this council that he would give up his church if it was necessary to stick with this organization, and of course they reconfirmed him in as a member.

I didn't know this until Mary Davison told me this Saturday. This was something taking place that I didn't know about, so he is back in as a head man.

Q You implied, in talking to me the last time I saw you about this thing, that you thought there was something significant in the fact that Davison, Thurman and Williams did not stay at the Fontainebleau. What was that?

A No. Thurman did stay at the Fontainebleau and me and Williams stayed at the Plaza. The only reason for that was they didn't have any room for us at the other place. Now, Thurman come down and made arrangements down there for eleven people and they were supposed to come in and I thought they was coming in there and stay at the Plaza, but the next morning I wake up and go to the Fontainebleau and they are all

in and all registered down there. Of course, the man wanted him to put up a deposit at the Plaza and he wouldn't do it and he went back down there to meet them when they come in at night. Next day they told me they made arrangements to get everybody in here but when we got there they didn't have room and that's why they made arrangements at the Plaza to put them all there, but during that night, the next morning the Fontainebleau had made arrangements to have room for all of them. Me and Williams stayed there. Thurman went back to the other and in the morning they had them all there.

Q Actually, legally, is there such a thing as the Dixie Klan of Georgia, or am I misinterpreting what you said?

A This man Milteer is their leader, which they have klaverns in Georgia, which is held under their charter.

Q When you were talking to me about Milteer representing Harry and Jack Brown of Chattanooga, Tennessee, for the Dixie Klan, was this the Dixie Klan of Tennessee or the Dixie Klan of Georgia?

A There's no such thing as the Dixie Klan of Georgia, except a klavern unit. The Dixie Klan is a corporation of Tennessee. When you represent it, you represent that corporation of Tennessee. Although you are in Georgia, you represent it. That's his position.

Q From the information you have received from either

Thurman or Williams, in the handwriting, allegedly, of Davison, that certain people will be taken care of, assassinated, was it Milteer who said they must start these assassinations as soon as possible?

A Milteer, not only him but others said that they would start as soon as it was deemed necessary, to prevent the UN from taking over the United States.

Q Where were the statements made?

A The statements here were made, our conversation of this was right in the lobby of the hotel.

Q It was not part of the program?

A No, they didn't say that.

Q You were in the lobby of the hotel with whom?

A Myself, John Thurman, Miltee--well, there was several people there that was discussing that.

Q How long did this discussion take place?

A Just like you would meet in the lobby of a hotel, maybe ten or fifteen minutes, discussing different things. That was between intermission--they would have an intermission and the next people would come up, as you see the program listed.

Q This is what I have written in my report. Let me see if this is still your feeling about the thing. In referring to the Dixie Klan of Georgia, which should have

been the Dixie Klan of Tennessee--

A That is correct.

Q They say one thing, that is, to start the assassinations as soon as the groups are prepared, not to wait for any great expiration of time, but now, some of the persons that are named in this report should be taken care of now. Is that correct?

A That was not anything that come from any of the leaders. That was just a discussion of Milteer and this Thurman, but none of the higher-ups didn't say anything like that. What I got from the higher people was that in the event that they felt that the President of the United States or the Congress was handing over the United States to the United Nations, that these people were the conspirators and they should be killed immediately. Of course, they can break out any time with violence.

Q I know you were working under a great handicap, but somewhere, and it is not written in this report, whether from you or from someone else, we have come across some information that states that this Congress of Freedom, the party organization of these offshoots, say that Mr. Kennedy, in September of this year, by executive decree which has already been passed, is going to put everything into the UN.

A Attempt to throw the United States into the UN;
that's right.

Q Is that the impression you have?

A Yes. This is supposed to happen this year.

Q Did you give me that information?

A I think I did; yes, I did.

Q This is referring particularly to these executive
orders that Milteer has written up; is that right?

A Well, Milteer, as far as I know, has written up
executive orders. He might have written it up. You see this
stuff here. Now, I didn't pay enough attention to him even
to read it. I just brought it. It's too much reading for
me to read. I know the man. I knew Milteer so well at these
other meetings. I know the man is one of the most violent-
minded men in the country. There is no question in my mind
that he didn't blow up a house in Chattanooga and killed
many, knocked out a colored man and his wife. I can't prove
it but I am sure he did it. They have been guilty of a lot
of bombings in Georgia and Tennessee. They will say that to
me and say, "We did it," but how am I going to prove that?
I did my best, put my head out to get blowed up following those
guys, followed them through the job, but I couldn't pinpoint
them on a job. Some way they would get lost on me. I know
they did it, as good as I am sitting here. If it had been

worked like we work here, it could have been a job done, but it wasn't done that way.

Q Do you believe they are going to kill all these people?

A I do. I definitely do. As sure as we are sitting here, next year some of them will be killed. I don't know which ones, but there will be several people killed, if there isn't some changes made between now and then.

Q What kinds of changes?

A On the UN business. If the Congress of the United States doesn't cut the UN out, and there is a building fear as it is being approached to the people today, if it continues that way for twelve months there has got to be some violence, because if there wasn't something done the people is not going to continue to go into this and support it, just to say it is the Congress of Freedom, because you could tell if you had been there and stood around and seen the people, the expression on their faces, heard the way they talked. Those people are people of means, financially, educationally; they are not just there for an ice cream party. That I can assure you. This can't continue on, with the people financing these things, that something doesn't happen. It has just got to happen. There is no question about it. I will bet my head on a chopping block there will be some

people killed by this time next year, and it will be in high places. If the FBI or anyone else was there and got themselves mixed in where they could hear casual conversations of people, it would be easy to find out what the goal of the organization is.

Q Do you know what the goal is?

A Yes, I know what the goal is.

Q What is it?

A The goal is to assassinate and destroy anybody they figure is trying to put the United States in the UN.

Q We are in the UN.

A We are in it, but we are not turned over and the Congress abolished and placed under a board of directors.

Q Is that when they are going to assassinate people, when the Congress is abolished?

A I don't think they will wait until that time, but that is what they are trying to present.

Q Until what point will they wait? When will things get worse? I assume that is what they are waiting for. They haven't killed anybody yet.

A That we don't know. We can assume they haven't, that we know of, but I don't think they intend to wait until it is turned over. I think when the time comes, from the military leaders that they have in there with the information

that they are getting, that they are contemplating on starting before that certain stage. Whenever the high command gives the orders to kill people, that's when it is going to happen.

Q When you say "high command," are you referring to military leaders?

A I am referring to the national hidden hand of this organization. I don't know. Somebody knows.

Q Are these the leaders of the Congress who were at this meeting?

A I don't know. They could be walking around me. I don't know.

Q How about Bohn and Davison?

A They are supposed to be on the high command, but I can't prove that.

Q How about the military people?

A Several are, several admirals, ex-generals. Mary Davison read a letter from a general or an admiral, which she didn't give his name. He told her in this letter that he was fixing to retire soon and that she had hit the nail on the head and he would give her all the support possible, and he knows many more facts that was in the making and her program was hitting the nail on the head for the communist conspiracy to destroy the United States Government. She wouldn't give his name, but she read the letter. She said

he wasn't out of the service and she would withhold his name, but she read the letter from him to the audience. I can't give you every word, but he indicated that these things was to come about.

Q Are there people who are trained to commit assassinations?

A I haven't got that deep in it, who is trained, or anything like that. I imagine that the people that's got this, that's setting it up, the Army officers, are using their own strategy of training how things will be done. This is supposed to be headed and directed by military men, from the top. I don't know. I haven't got that far yet.

Q Who has been chosen to be assassinated?

A I can't remember all the names, You have got the book.

Q What book are you talking about?

A That's it. You have it there. The names is marked in there.

Q This book is "The Secret Government of the United States," by Mary M. Davison.

A That's right. She give this to Tommie Williams and Tommie Williams give it to me and told me that the ones marked there, that Mary said they were the ones to go, and they are marked in groups.

Q Are the people who are marked for assassination members of the Council on Foreign Relations?

A Right.

Q Why were they picked?

A They claim the Council on Foreign Relations is a communist underground conspiracy to overthrow the United States Government.

Q They are not all the members of this group, are they? They have just selected some, I presume?

A They have selected some in that book which was marked by Mary Davison, and if Williams marked it on the back, the pages on the back.

Q Do you know the names of those who have been marked?

A I don't know all of them. I just glanced at some of them. I don't know them all because I didn't go through it.

Q Are these some of the names: Sidney J. Weinberg; Louis L. Strauss?

A I remember him being marked.

Q How about Herbert Lehman?

A Yes. He is an ex-governor or senator from New York. I remember him.

Q Benjamin J. Bittenweiser?

A I don't remember that name.

Q Alexander Sachs?

A Well, I didn't run over that.

Q John J. McCloy?

A Yes. He is a banker in Manhattan.

Q John M. Schiff?

A Well, I don't remember him. I didn't read through them.

Q You just glanced at them. I am trying to give you some of these. How about Eugene Black?

A I think so. I think I remember him. Let me see now if I can get my mind on some more I seen.

Q Averill Harriman?

A Oh, yes; he is marked.

Q James and Eric Warburgh?

A Yes, Warburgh.

Q Who marked these?

A The names was given me in the book by Tommie Williams and he told me that Mary Davison had marked them and give it to him and he give it to me. He had some more books.

Q When are these people supposed to be assassinated?

A I guess when the orders is given.

Q What has to happen for the orders to be given?

A I don't know that. It's when they believe that the United Nations is going to take the whole government over and set up their own government. The way I understood it, they

will not wait until it happens. When the high command feels it is necessary to go to work to prevent that, that's when they will do it.

Q There is another group called the Business Advisory Council that also is listed on the assassination schedule. Is that correct?

A I am not sure if it's business, but I know there's some advisory or industrial or some kind of board, I believe.

Q These are all presidents or owners of large corporations?

A That's right.

Q Why would they be chosen for assassination?

A They figure that they are financing the conspiracy. One of their top speeches in all of this is the Warburghs and they claim the Warburghs financed the overthrow of the czars of New York. A lot of people are listed they tell you about in the speeches, who are related to these people. You would have to get the recording to identify all the people they call out. They call out a lot of the principals in this book, too.

Q Is this Business Advisory Council supposed to have influence in the establishment of our foreign relations program?

A These people in this book that's marked is supposed to be in a position that they are infiltrating and have

infiltrated and have great power in the agencies of the United States Government and that they are communists, that they are directing a communist conspiracy.

Q It would appear that anybody who has any influence with the United States Government would be a possibility on this list.

A Well, I mean, well, it could be, but of course they didn't tell me that. The information I got was strictly that people on the National Council of Foreign Relations is the ones who is responsible for the conspiracy.

Q You got your information from Thurman, who got it from Mary Davison?

A No, I got it from Tommie Williams.

Q Tommie Williams, I am sorry. And he got it from Mary Davison?

A That's right.

Q That is, as far as the assassinations go?

A The people to be killed.

Q Did you discuss that with anyone else?

A That was generally talked by many people, that the Council of Foreign Relations was conducting the communist conspiracy against the United States. In fact, that, to get right down to pinpoint it, in fact, the whole organization of The Congress of Freedom and its affiliates are directed

to assassinate or kill, from the impression I got from conversations, any member of this who they feel that is in the conspiracy.

Q Of course, you got this from discussions that you held in the hallways and with individuals, rather than at the meeting itself?

A Well, now, the speakers themselves spoke on who was the traitors, who is the members of the Council on Foreign Relations. They didn't come out and tell you, "We are going to kill them," but they indicated they were the traitors. Therefore, they could be talking about nobody else.

Q Are you familiar with the term "Bilderberger"?

A Well, I have heard that name, yes.

Q That is spelled B-i-l-d-e-r-b-e-r-g-e-r?

A Well, I don't know how to spell it because I didn't spell it.

Q That is in the book.

Is it your understanding that in September of 1963 the President is going to put in effect certain executive orders which would take over communications media, all electric power, petroleum, gas, food resources and farms, modes of transportation, mobilize civilians into work forces, take over health, education and welfare supervision, operate all

national registration of all persons, take over all aircraft and airports, among others?

A That is exactly what they expect. When that time comes, there will be a war. I didn't know he had this wrote in there because I didn't read it. That is exactly what they are discussing up there.

Q These are a series of executive orders, 10995 to 11051, inclusive.

I am asking you for an educated guess, because you are affiliated with these people. How much of this stuff has gone into the Armed Forces of the United States?

A They have flooded them with it. The military people is with them. They have flooded this in all Army posts. There is no question the Army intelligence and the FBI must know this type of literature must be given to soldiers in the Army.

Q You are referring to literature put out by J. E. Milteer?

A Yes.

Q In addition to this type of literature, how much has been sent out of the Council for Statehood into the Armed Forces?

A Of course, we have got a letter, a copy of each one of her letters.

Q You are talking about Mary Davison's letters?

A That's right. There's probably been several tons of that distributed to Army camps and soldiers got them into their hands, to make them believe they are going to be placed under the UN generally.

Q Does the name Lieutenant General DuValliere mean anything to you?

A Yes. He is supposed to be a general, a retired general. He lives up in Maryland. He is one of the directors and advisers and a source of confidence information from different Armed Forces, probably the War Department and the Pentagon, they are his associates.

In my opinion, from what I have heard discussed of this man and from some of his literature, he is in a big way involved in this.

Q Is it the consensus of feeling of this group that they would actively work toward the overthrow of the present Government of the United States?

A No, it is the demand that the United States Government get out of the UN. They intend to overthrow the UN. That is cold turkey.

Q When you say "overthrow the UN," you mean their concern is with getting our country out of the UN?

A Yes. If they have to fight their own government

to get it out, they are going to do that.

Q But they are not talking about overthrowing the government?

A They are not talking about overthrowing the form of the republic and the Constitution of the United States. They intend to fight the government, if necessary, to get it out from under the UN charter. That is the primary purpose.

Q Getting back to the Bilderberger group, is that an international group, a state group, a national group, or what is it?

A Well, the Bilderbergers are a part of the Council for Foreign Relations, who are big advisers, as I understand it, on the high command of the thing. I don't doubt that they intend to kill the Bilderbergers any more than they do John McCloy or any other one they have got marked and some that ain't marked, I wouldn't be surprised.

Q Are you familiar with the group known as the International Bilderberger group, which has been described as the top secret group of the invincible government dictating foreign economic policy to Mr. Kennedy?

A The only thing I know is what I have been told by the speakers at these organizations. I never knew such a thing existed as Bilderberger until I got my hands on this

book. If you ask me about Reuther or some of those people, I can tell you. These people I don't know.

Q This list which is in "The Secret Government of the United States," includes His Royal Highness Bernhardt, Prince of the Netherlands, J. H. Rettinger, Polish charge d'affaires, and various other foreign and American dignitaries. Was this group discussed at the meeting?

A Definitely. Them groups are all discussed at those meetings. Any one of them you go to, they are discussed. The Federal Reserve Bank, they control it--that's what they say.

Q Let me ask you this again. Do you really believe they intend to kill all these people?

A I certainly do. I know they are going to.

Q That is an educated guess of yours after twenty years of being in the business?

A I certainly do, and this is the first time ever in my life I ever attended any group and they satisfied me that they intended to go out and kill people. The Klu Klux Klan advocates a lot of stuff about the Negroes and Jews. That's only to get three dollars for whisky, in a lot of cases. These people here are not a bunch of farmers coming to a meeting in the woods under a rope to hear somebody talk. These are people of means that can put down two or three

hundred thousand for your head and that will get most anybody's head.

Q In your report, you mentioned several people you met. Then you say about this last group that has been named that they say one thing, "Start the assassinations as soon as the group are prepared, not to wait for any great expiration of time, but now."

A That's the Dixie Klan under Milteer. That's his language.

Q That is Milteer's language?

A Yes. I didn't get that from the high command. I am satisfied Milteer is one of the high command and in the policy group, but he didn't tell me that, but from the way he talked and hearing the other people talk, you can't help but think they are following some of his policies and ideas, although they don't come out and advocate exactly violence to kill.

Q What was the attitude, generally, of the people at the convention? Were they serious?

A They sure was. They were the most serious people I ever talked to of any organization meeting I have ever been in. They didn't go to the bar and drink. At intermissions they would be in small groups, talking. They were not people to go to the dance hall and dance. They were the most sincere

group. You could see the graveness on their faces. They strictly felt that the United States Government, possibly the President, was fixing to hand over a Christian nation to a godless nation. That was it.

[A short recess was taken.]

Q Was any discussion had at the Congress regarding General Walker?

A Oh, yes, indeed. His lawyer came there. I didn't know he was coming, but after I left he flew in and made a speech, Watts. I didn't know he was to be there or I would have stayed and listened. After I had gone, they had a special session and flew him in. He made a big speech. They showed him and his picture, General Walker.

They are going to also have a congressional investigation, demand one, that his arrest be investigated.

I told them, "You don't need to do that. I will tell you who had him arrested."

They said, "Who?"

I said, "National States Rights and Fred Hackett." They put it in the paper they were sending down ten thousand armed men, people wanted him arrested in Mississippi.

Q Let us go back to a conversation that took place one night out on 22nd Avenue. Present when this conversation took place was a man by the name of James H. Keathley, and a

man by the name of Gorne, who has an optical shop in the 79th Street shopping area, was also present.

A I remember that. I don't believe he made more than a couple of meetings.

Q He only made one.

A It rings now.

Q This, I believe, was before Branch was arrested. It was right around that time, anyway. You reported to us that Gorne reported that there was at that time in the making an organization without name, similar to the Council for Statehood. Do you remember that?

A Yes, and I don't know whatever become of that, but they were supposed to be going to get that organization going. It was supposed to be in formation.

Q Is that not in fact the Council for Statehood?

A It might be. I didn't meet this guy no more.

Q Is this the only organization that has come up since then?

A It could be. I don't know.

Q Do you know this man, "Know your optician Andrews"?

A Certainly, I know him well, Hobart Andrews, yes.

Q Did Gorne work for him?

A That I don't know. He might have.

Q Did he not work for him at the Fort Lauderdale place?

A I am not sure. I could find out.

Q Andrews has a Fort Lauderdale place, too?

A Yes.

Q This is what bothers us. You give us this report six or seven months before the formation of any group. Six or seven months later, the Council for Statehood comes up. Gorne is from Dade County. We do not know who is in Dade County in this operation. All we can determine is who is in Broward County.

I believe that Gorne is employed in Andrews' place in Broward County, and Epstein's business is right next to the optical place in Fort Lauderdale, in the shopping center. Inasmuch as Epstein came up in their discussion, obviously, there is some tie with Gorne, Andrews and this new organization.

A It might be.

Q That is, if our supposition that Gorne is employed there is accurate, and I think it is. You report now that you have never seen the man since then?

A No, I have never seen him. I am like not to remember it, it has been so long ago. Since you explained it now, I do remember it.

Q Where does this put us in this business?

A There's no question about it. There's more people

in Dade County which have not been identified in this, and of course I am satisfied they have got a lot of people in it that don't even want their names mentioned or a letter sent to them, but they contribute, because they are afraid of Gerstein.

Q You do not know who these people are, do you?

A No, but I think we will know as they build up.

Q I have one more question about the Congress meeting.

Did you go home the same way you came, that is, by car?

A No. I left them because Tommie was going back to South Carolina, and I came back on the train.

Q So you came back alone?

A That's right.

Q Is there anything else you recall about the convention that you have not told Detective Gracey previous or have not told us here?

A No, I don't think so.

Q Anything of any value?

A No, I don't think so.

Q When was the next meeting of the Council for Statehood that you attended?

A Last Saturday, at Boynton Beach.

Q At whose house?

A Walter Jackson.

Q Were the people who attended the convention in

New Orleans present at this meeting?

A Not all of them. Lanier was not there. There was Jackson and his wife, they was at the meeting. Mary Davison was there; Mrs. Cunningham and her sister was there.

Q That is Mrs. Habig?

A That's right. Tommie Williams was not there.

Q But Mary Davison was there, was she not?

A Oh, yes.

Q Who chairs these meetings?

A John Thurman. He is the president.

Q He is the president of the Florida Council for Statehood?

A Yes.

Q Were reports given as to what happened at the convention?

A Well, yes. Thurman brought it up. He said we wanted to discuss something which I didn't know had even happened. He said, "You didn't know it, but we want to discuss thoroughly here about Bohn." Then we closed it right there and never talked about it again.

Q Was Bohn at the meeting?

A No, he wasn't there. So he went on to tell about this thing coming out in the paper that the Pope had released, that all Christians should form one head of the UN and to set

up a UN police force, something to that effect, and that after he read that he went to the bar and got a couple of drinks and then came to the committee meeting and he sat for a while, and he got up and says, "Well, I'm done with all of it."

Q Is this Lanier telling the story at the Council for Statehood?

A No. This is John Thurman. He is telling it to everybody there.

Q How many people were at the Council meeting?

A Oh, about twelve. So he went on to relate this. There was some people there that was not at the meeting. In the meeting there was him and Mary and John Lanier and Bohn. I think that was the only ones that was there that was at the meeting.

He went on and told us what happened. He said, "We thoroughly discussed it," and that Bohn got up and stated his allegiance to the flag and swore he would give up his church and religion before he would leave the Council for Statehood and The Congress of Freedom, so then he was taken back in as a bona fide member.

He said, "I brought this up to let you know what happened, the ones of you that was not there, and we never want to discuss this any more, that it dies right here."

So he asked somebody to make a motion. I made a motion that it die. Somebody seconded it, and that was the end of it, so Bohn is still one of the head men.

Q Did they give any further report on the activities of the Congress meeting?

A No, just general for the ones that wasn't there, how it was run, there was very good speakers, high class people and different things, and that's all.

Q Did they discuss any of the violence?

A No. In this meeting they never discussed anything like that.

Q What else happened?

A Mary made a little speech. She says, "Now, I think we have got to start a letter chain on the Pope, because he has now become public enemy No. 1 to the world when he wants to put the world under a UN police court. He is just as bad as anybody in the Council of Foreign Relations."

So I have an idea that shortly she will start a chain of letters on this, dealing with the Pope, or at least one, anyway. She didn't say she was going to do it. She said she thought we had that to do.

Q What else did you discuss?

A That was about all there was to it. I mean they were just talking, drinking coffee and fooling around. There

was no resolutions passed or any discussions passed about anything, with the exception, of course, of going ahead with the organization and trying to organize as many people as they could get in, and I think Mrs. Cunningham made a remark she thought we could have a hundred or two hundred people in Dade County in the next sixty days, and Mrs. Pendrey, of course she joined, and she donates the money and she give them the right to have all meetings at her house.

Q How old a woman is she?

A Oh, I would say she's fifty-five.

Q Do these women come with their husbands?

A No. I don't think they have got any husbands. I know I wouldn't live with one of them. I don't know about anybody else.

Q Why did they meet on Saturday?

A They changed it on account of going down there, but I think they are going to change it back.

Here I want to show you, the man writes this.

Q You are referring to the "Cross or the Flag," by Gerald K. Smith?

A His secretary was there.

Q Opal Tanner White is Gerald K. Smith's secretary?

A She represented his organization.

Q She spoke at the Congress meeting?

A Yes, but she didn't mention his name.

Q Did you have any out-of-towners at your Council for Statehood meeting this week?

A No, we didn't. We haven't had any really out-of-towners for some time.

Q You have had several attending?

A Yes.

Q What is the occasion for them to attend? Do they happen to be in the area?

A From what I understood, the fellow Todd and Watts and some fellow from Fort Lauderdale was there one night. From what I understood, the reason they was there, one was from Ohio originally, I believe, and the other from New York, was they had got hold of some of these letters of Mrs. Davison and wrote her a letter asking if they could be there and she invited them.

Q Did you not have an agent from some installation in the midwest? Did he not attend one of your Council for Statehood meetings?

A This was Roberts, I think, but he didn't get there. He was supposed to be there. He was a major. He was kicked out. He didn't get there. He was supposed to be.

Q You had somebody once from California, an organizer of some group out there?

A Well, I think so, but I don't remember him now.

Q That was not Swift, was it?

A No, Swift didn't get there. He was supposed to come, too, but he didn't. I don't think Mary Davison and him agree too much, because she says he raps the Jews too much openly. She doesn't want nobody doing that.

Q Were any plans for the future of the Council for Statehood discussed at the Saturday meeting?

A Yes. They are going to drive ahead, organizing. Mary didn't say definitely she was going to start a chain letter on the Pope, but she indicated it should be done and it might be done.

Q Is there some difference of opinion in that organization as to whether concentration should be made on writing letters or violence?

A Writing letters that she writes. It's this: She feels that the letters she does write, if it gets in the hands of certain people, might create violence against certain people she charges against.

Q Are there not some people in the group who think they are not accomplishing much by just writing letters and that they ought to go out and just assassinate people?

A Well, I would say yes, and Thurman has said and also Williams that writing letters and sending them out was

all right, but the organization was organized for action, and of course I think that Thurman feels and also Williams that they are moving too slowly in the direction of no violence.

Q Are they organized in any way in regard to training persons how to handle munitions?

A I haven't seen it, but they have been in the woods and trained with their own guns.

Q Who was that?

A In this group that went out and trained there was McCabe, the Cuban doctor, Williams and Thurman. Them I know. The others I don't know because their names was never called, but they took me in, the doctor did. They showed me the guns.

Q Is that Dr. Rodriguez?

A I think so.

Q Do they use explosives?

A No; carbine rifles for target practice. That's what they told me they was doing. I wasn't there, but they had been out there. Of course, there was some talk that they were going to set up over there, in the Everglades somewhere, a training place to start training people, but if that has been put into operation, I don't know it. Nobody has told me. I doubt that it has, unless it was put in by a man who works for the post office, McCant.

Q The rifle practice has been going on in West Palm Beach, has it not?

A Yes, in the Everglades. Wherever they go, they are going to get this now and mix it in. I don't know how far the Dixie Klan is, but the Dixie Klan is a very dangerous organization.

Q What do they have to do with the Council for Statehood?

A That I don't know. I don't know the connections at the top. Here's the thing about it. Every organization that is affiliated with this organization Mary Davison knows about it. But she won't tell me. Milteer has done more talking than anybody else, because he knows me pretty good, from seeing me before. That's why he did talk openly, like he did, but I tell you Mary Davison is very, very closed. She don't identify anybody at the top except what we will ordinarily have to meet and see.

Q Mary Davison knows you from the old days, does she not?

A No, she doesn't know me that long.

Q Does she trust you?

A I mean maybe she will. I am trying to get her to, anyway. I figure now the next story on this book here is going to cause a lot of disturbance because I am going to

have across the headline, "Patriots of America select traitors to be executed."

Q You are talking about the next issue of your labor union periodical?

A I will bring that out and then go listing some of these names.

Q In this issue, dated April 15, you have given a report of the Congress convention, in which you have featured Mary M. Davison.

A That's right; yes. Now, when I come out with this headline, when I write this story, maybe that will give the district attorney, the FBI, or somebody a chance to try to get me to answer some questions. Maybe I refuse to answer the questions. You know the facts. They call me before the grand jury and I will refuse. They will say, "He's all right. He answers nothing." I will say, "I publish a paper. That's all."

Then we can start moving ahead on this. This will be a good excuse to move ahead. That will open the gate.

Q That will put you in good stead with those people?

A That's the way I did it with the Klu Klux Klan. I had to write a pretty good sheet with reference to getting up to the high command. Before long, I met a grand dragon and then got in on the grand council.

Q Are you on the grand council of the Klu Klux Klan?

A Yes. My klan has one man. That's the anti-communist klan.

Q Is that from this area?

A That's all over the United States.

Q Your klan comes from where?

A Miami, but I am the only one here.

Q You are the total membership?

A I am the total membership.

Q You are on the National Grand Dragon Council?

A On the national council. There ain't no more now. We have been successful in breaking it up. They meet in little squads here and there.

Q Are the American Nazi party members active with the Council for Statehood?

A No. If they is, I don't know it. I don't think they would even have them in it. They talk against them.

Q The Council for Statehood talks against the American Nazi party?

A Yes.

Q Why?

A They don't want anything to do with Nazism, they say.

Q Is it because they think they are ineffective?

A They think they are ineffective. These guys, when they come to town, go down to the FBI and let them know all their business.

Q The Nazis?

A Yes. They don't want anybody going to the FBI or Gerstein's office. It might be a possibility, if they move in Broward or over there, you will see a big headline one morning where they got well worked over, because those people up there don't want them at all.

Q You mean the Council for Statehood members might work over the American Nazi party members, if they open in Broward?

A Yes. It's in the making. Nobody has ordered it. If they open, I think it will be ordered. They want nothing to do with them. They say they are a bunch of punks, that the Nazi party is supported by Drew Pearson.

Q Drew Pearson?

A They accuse Pearson of being in with them.

Q That is because Rockwell gives Pearson all kinds of news stories?

A They think Pearson gives money to let this man fly all over the country and create publicity.

Q Is Mary Davison carrying on an affair with any of the people in the Council for Statehood?

A You mean just associating with them?

Q No. I am talking about whether she and Thurman or Williams are running around together.

A Well, I don't know that. I know she goes around with them and rides around. She goes to different places, but she is a woman around sixty-five, sixty-seven years old.

Q Is there any problem that exists in that organization with regard to money? Does anybody suspect any of the members of taking off with some of the money for their own personal use?

A Yes. McCabe and his mother used to handle the money coming in. They got suspicious of them, that they were stealing, holding out on them. They have taken that away. McCabe and his mother is trying to break up the organization. They wrote cover letters to all the members of The Congress of Freedom and told them Mary Davison, Thurman and them, had taken everything away from them and were just taking the money and using it as they please. There is a big friction there now.

Q Between McCabe and Davison, as to who is stealing the money?

A Yes. There's a big friction between them and I don't know what McCabe would say, or anything. I doubt he would tell you the right time.

Q Actually, nobody is required to give an accounting of the money, so there is no real answer as to who is taking the money, is there?

A That's right. They did at one time, when Hoffman was the treasurer, at every meeting he would give an accounting how many bills were paid, how much is on hand.

Q Who is Hoffman?

A He is not with it any more. He quit. He was an ex-policeman out of Palm Beach. Him and his wife both got out.

Q Why did they get out?

A I don't know, some kind of argument.

Q Are they still in Palm Beach?

A I don't know that, either, but them and the McCabes is very much on the outs.

Q When is the next meeting of the Council?

A They haven't set it. They are going to notify us.

Q How do they notify you?

A By letter or telephone.

Q Are you the corresponding secretary?

A No. I agreed if they give me these names that I would get them addressed and stamps put on them. I have to do that to get my hands on the records.

Q What kind of mailings do they have?

A The chain letter goes out to the people whose names

are on them. I have been trying to get my hands on some more, but it is a hard proposition. If Mrs. Pendrey gets hold of it and gets to be a coordinator and gets a lot of names, then I will get them, because she has got no way of getting them typed, and I would just tell her I will get them done.

Now, old lady Cunningham has got a lot of them, if I could get hold of her. She must have three or four hundred she sends out. If I could get my hands on hers, I would have a pretty good group. She is coordinator for two or three states where they don't have nobody in that state.

Q Do you know of any violence that is planned in Dade County?

A No.

Q Or in Florida?

A No. I don't know of any that is planned specifically now or any other time, with the exception of what was said at the meeting about the United Nations and they would fight it, if it were necessary.

Q When was the last time you spoke to Keathley?

A Last Sunday, at church.

Q Did he have anything to say?

A No. The only thing he told me was that a lawyer

had told him--no, he told me that the Sunday before that. He didn't tell me this Sunday--he didn't say much to me at all this past Sunday, but the Sunday before that he told me his lawyer told him--first of all, he said he got a letter from--what's that lawyer's name that represented Branch?

Q Davant?

A No.

Q Gwinn?

A He got a letter from Gwinn demanding he pay \$9,000 back fee, immediately. He said, "I don't know if I should pay him or not."

He said Davant told him that the other lawyer was around police headquarters and Mr. Sapp told him that he was going up to see Branch and Victor, something to that effect. He did tell me that he had spoke to Giblin or either if he was arrested Giblin would defend him, not Davant. That's what he said.

Q Does he expect to get arrested?

A Well, Davant keeps telling him he is. Davant has got him under the impression that he is going to be arrested. I don't know whether he is just saying that.

Q Has he talked to you about the bombing at all in the Shoemaker case?

A What's that?

Q Does he talk to you about Branch?

A No, he don't talk to nobody. He cusses Branch. He is going to cut that money off as soon as that year is up. He is mad at Branch for talking, see. He is not mad at him for putting the bomb there. He is mad at him for talking. No, he won't discuss it with nobody, nothing. He don't want to hear nothing. He gets right mad.

He says it cost him \$30,000 and he tells me he ain't paid the lawyer. Before he told me he paid \$30,000 and now he said the lawyer sent him this bill for \$9,000. He acted like he wasn't going to tell it or wasn't going to pay it. Whether he will or not, I don't know.

MR. GELBER: We have no further questions.

[Whereupon, the interrogation was concluded at 11:30 a.m.]

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